

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 IO-13 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /076 W
-----066461 171339Z /45

O R 171202Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0432
INFO AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1889

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV XJ BC
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE FRONTLINE STATES MEETING IN LUSAKA

1. EXTAFF MIN MOGWE SOUGHT ME OUT AT SOCIAL GATHERING AUGUST 16 TO ASK ABOUT STATUS OF MEETING OF FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS WITH FONSEC OWEN AND AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG. MOGWE SAID VICE PRESIDENT MASIRE AND HE HAD BEEN ASKED TO "STAND BY" AND BE PREPARED TO GO TO LUSAKA BY AUGUST 20 AND THEN HAD HEARD NOTHING FURTHER. THIS LEFT MASIRE IMMOBILIZED AND UNABLE TO SCHEDULE OTHER ENGAGEMENTS AS ACTING PRESIDENT (ON AUGUST 16, PRESIDENT KHAMA DEPARTED FOR ONE WEEK'S LEAVE AT HIS FARM 200 MILES FROM GABORONE) AND HE (MOGWE) HAD BEEN TOLD TO ATTEND ANTI-APARTHEID MEETING IN LAGOS BEGINNING AUGUST 22.

2. MOGWE SAID HIS STAFF FOUND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SCHEDULE TRAVEL FROM LUSAKA TO LAGOS IN TIME FOR THE ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE OPENING. MOGWE SAID HE WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL IF HE COULD HITCH A RIDE FROM LUSAKA TO LAGOS WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG. HE REALIZED HE WOULD NOT BE
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ALONE AMONG PARTICIPANTS AT LUSAKA MEETING (ASSUMING IT IS HELD) DESIRING TO GO DIRECTLY TO LAGOS BUT IT WOULD BE OF "TREMENDOUS ASSISTANCE" IF AMBASSADOR YOUNG COULD ACCOMMODATE HIM. (MOGWE EMPHASIZED HE WOULD BE ALONE, I.E., NEITHER STAFF AIDE NOR WIFE ACCOMPANYING.)

3. SPECULATING ON POSSIBLE REASONS FOR "SUDDEN SILENCE"

RE LUSAKA MEETING, MOGWE SAID HE HAD HEARD (A) THAT PRESIDENT MACHEL HAD STATED THAT "PATRIOTIC FRONT REPRESENTS THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE" (A STATEMENT MOGWE FOUND "INEXPLICABLE"), AND (B) THAT PRESIDENT NYERERE HAD FOUND UK "LESS ENTHUSIASTIC" THAN U.S. CONCERNING ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE. HE WONDERED WHETHER THESE STATEMENTS MIGHT INDICATE THAT SOME SERIOUS HITCH HAD DEVELOPED.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: REPLY BY IMMEDIATE CABLE TO EXTAFF MIN MOGWE'S INQUIRIES RE STATUS OF LUSAKA MEETING IF STILL SCHEDULED, AND WHETHER AMBASSADOR YOUNG WOULD HAVE SPACE TO TAKE HIM TO LAGOS. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS. DEPARTMENT MIGHT HAVE ON THE BACKGROUND OR PROSPECTS FOR LUSAKA MEETING.
NORLAND

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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